

(a) whether any case of misuse of Replenishment (REP) licences under the Exim Scrip Scheme has come to the notice of the Government during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a scope for loss of such licences before these actually reach the genuine parties and their misuse by other; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to plug the loopholes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d). Exim Scrips issued under the Exim Scrips Scheme are not subject to actual user conditions and are freely transferable. However, there have been cases where the Exim Scrips were obtained on the basis of forged documents. The Exim Scrip Scheme has since been discontinued.

Sale of China Silk Fabrics in Domestic Markets

3723. SHRI LOKANATH CH-
OUDHURY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Indian duppion silk fabrics is used for export production of silk garments; and

(b) if so, the steps Government proposed to be taken to prevent evasion of 150% import duty on import of Chinese mulberry non-duppion silk and sale of China silk fabrics in domestic markets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Silk garments made out of Indian Dupion silk fabrics are exported under provi-

sions other than Appendix-13C also. Imports made against such exports are subjected to import duty at the prescribed rate. For export of silk products including garments under Appendix-13C, Central Silk Board's inspection and clarification are to confirm the quality of the constituent yarns in the fabrics used in the export products with that of the sample furnished by the exporters. As per this certification, the customs maintain records on the constituent yarns in the export product in the DEFC finally to be considered to fulfil export obligation against import of exempt materials under Advance Licence Scheme.

Thus, the import is allowed as per the input/output norms fixed for the relevant export product and disposal of replenished exempt material is governed by the provisions of the Import-Export Policy. Violation of the policy provisions are dealt with by penal action under the Imports & exports Control Act, 1947 and orders issued thereunder.

Opening of Branches by GIC

3724. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA
KAUR (DEEPA):
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PAN-
DEY:

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRI ANNA JOSHI:
SHIR T.J. ANJALOSE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria laid down for opening of branch offices by LIC and GIC;

(b) the total number of branch offices of General Insurance Corporation of India functioning in each State at present; and

(c) the names of the places where new